

FAIRY TAIL

25



Hiro Mashima
Creator of *Rave Master*

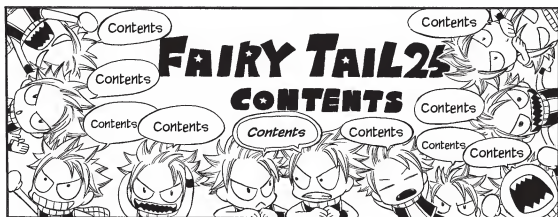
FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

25



HIRO NASHIMA



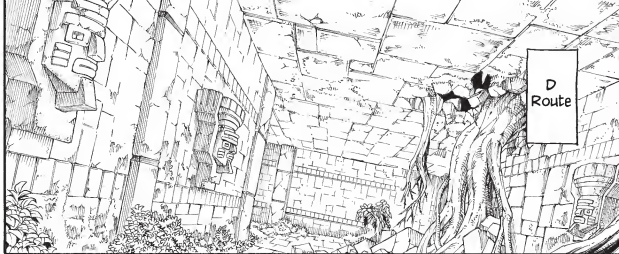
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FAIRY TAIL

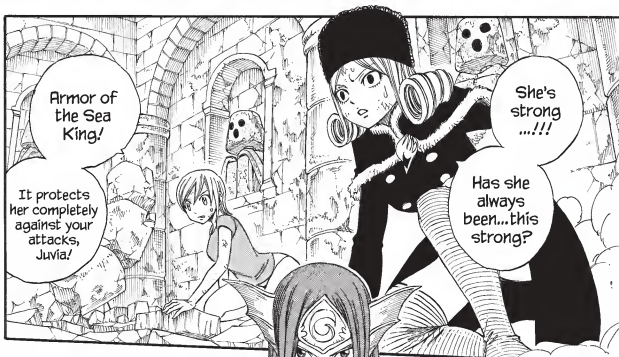
フェアリーテイル



Chapter 205: Natsu vs. Gildarts



D
Route

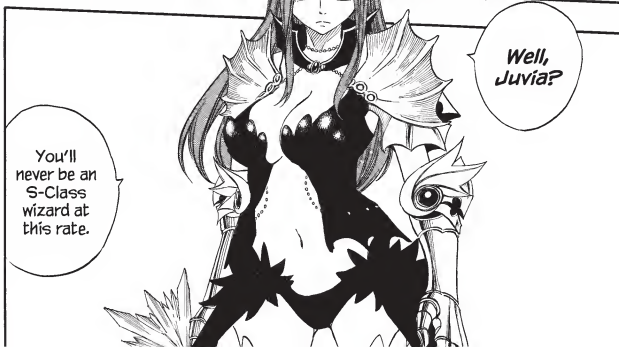


Armor of the Sea King!

She's strong ...!!!

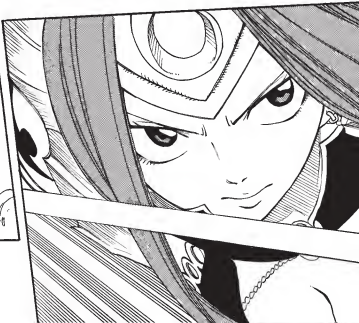
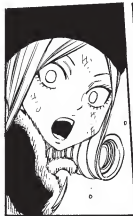
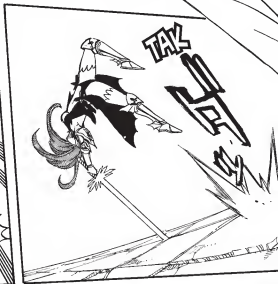
It protects her completely against your attacks, Juvia!

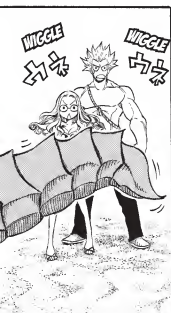
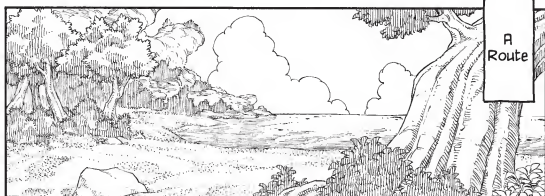
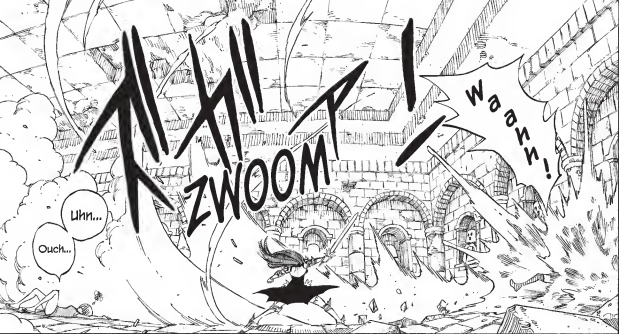
Has she always been...this strong?



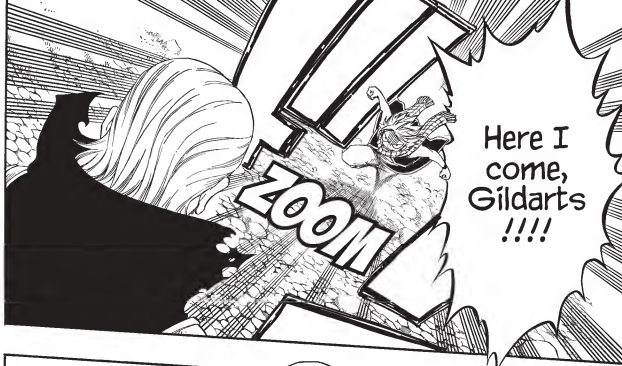
Well, Juvia?

You'll never be an S-Class wizard at this rate.









Here I
come,
Gildarts
!!!!



Hold on a
second.

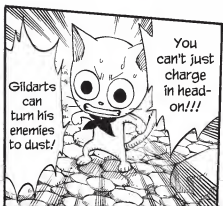


Natsu
!!



Calm
down,
Natsu!

You
have to
be ready
for this...
Come
on...

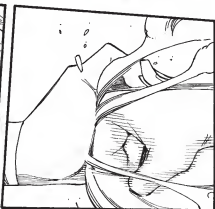


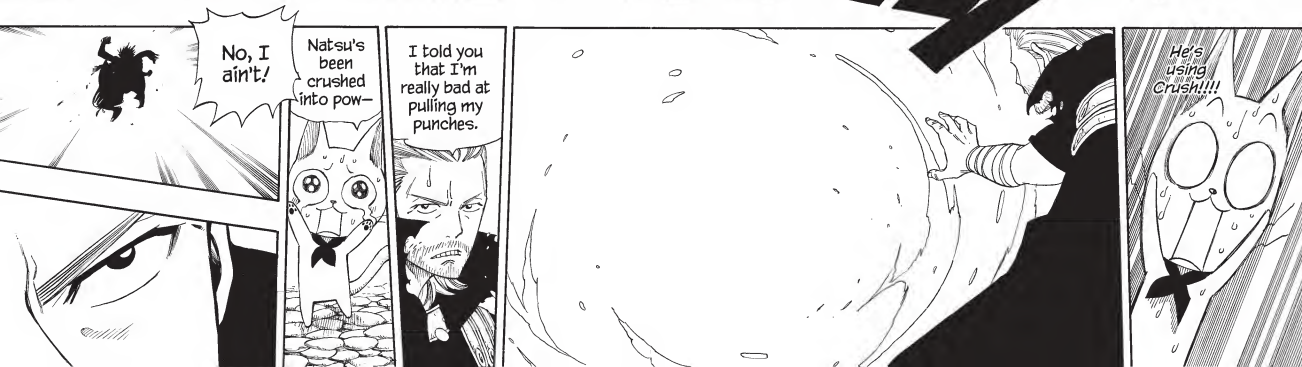
Gildarts
can
turn his
enemies
to dust!

You
can't just
charge
in head-
on!!!



WOAH!!!





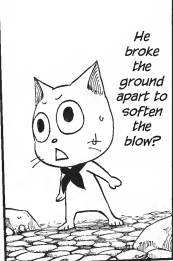
No, I
ain't!

Natsu's
been
crushed
into pow—

I told you
that I'm
really bad at
pulling my
punches.

He's
using
Crush!!!





He
broke
the
ground
apart to
soften
the
blow?



H
Y
A
A
A
!!!!



GRK!!

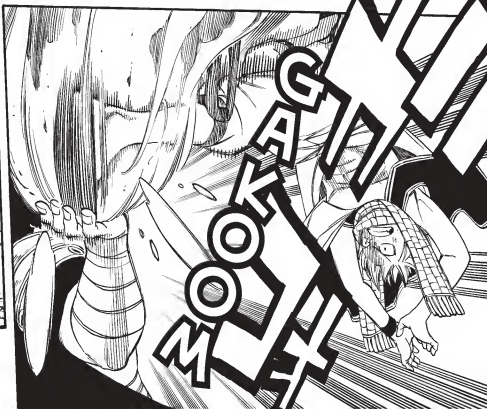
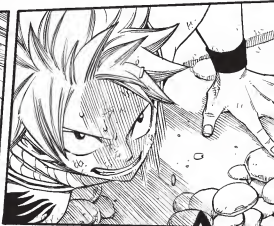
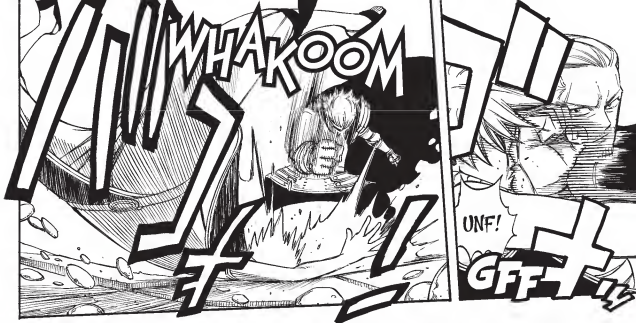
WHEE!!

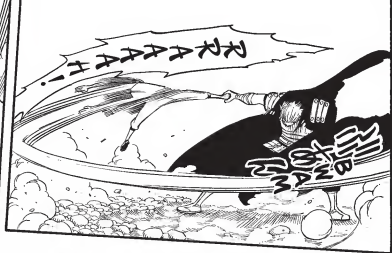
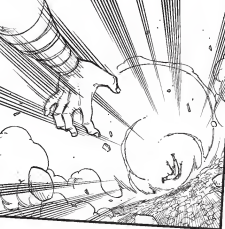
HAAH!



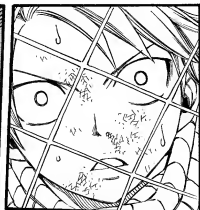
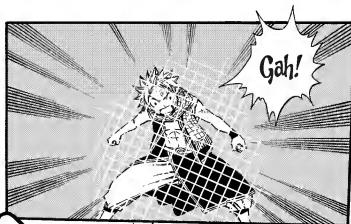
BONK!!

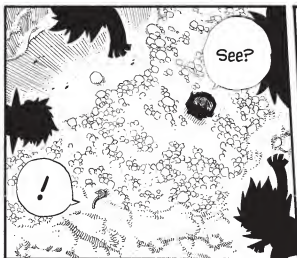
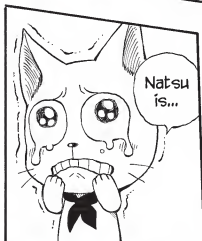
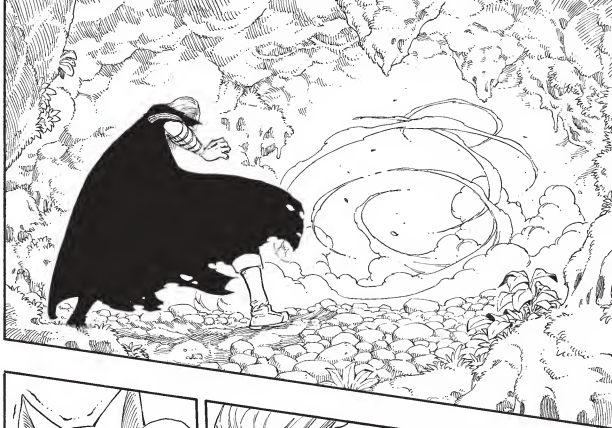














Chapter 206: To Continue Down This Path



Let's
go to it,
Gildarts
!!!!

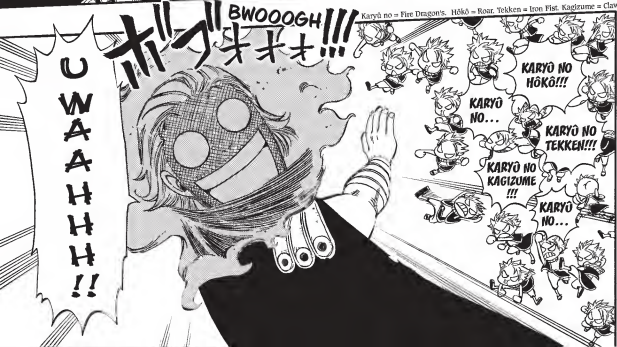
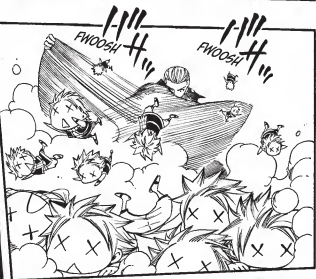
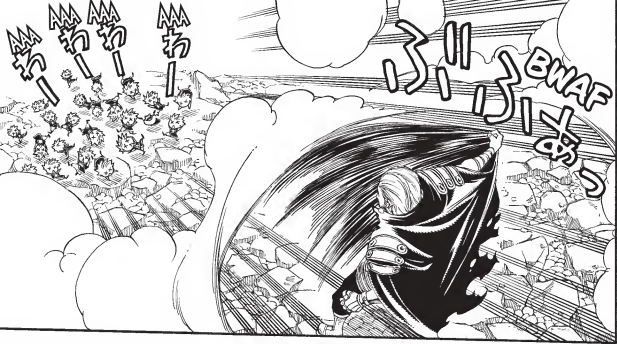


For
heaven's
sake!



It's a huge
herd of
Natsus!





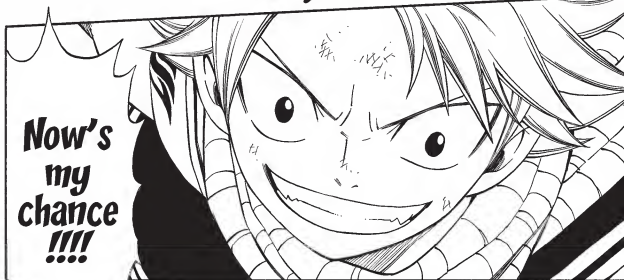
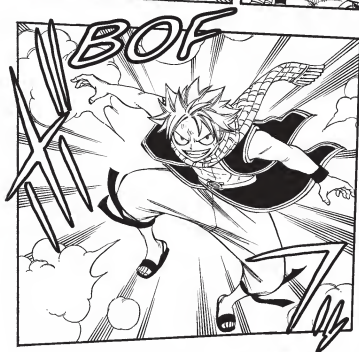
Karyō no = Fire Dragon's. Hōkō = Roar. Tekken = Iron Fist. Kagizume = Claws.



Go
back to
normal!



You
miserable
little...!!



Now's
my
chance
!!!!



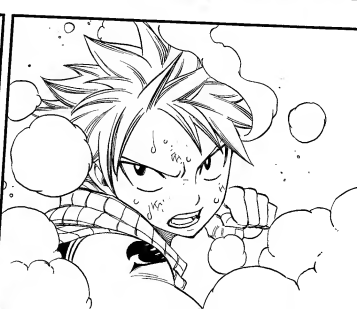
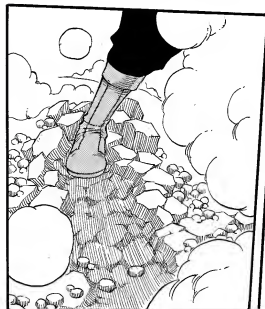
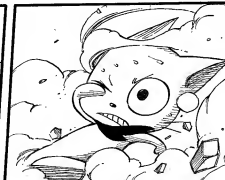
*Blazing Flashover Blade

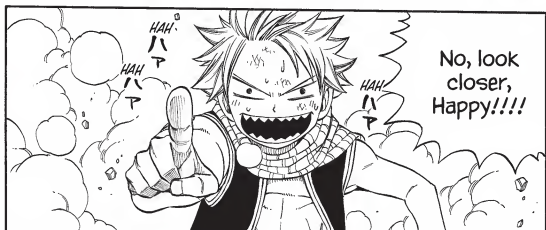


**GUREN
BAKUEN-
JIN*
!!!!!!**

DOGWOOOOO

X





*Ka ha ha
ha ha!!!!
This is
a really
big step
forward
!!!!*

*The Gildarts
we know
never moves
from the
same spot!!*



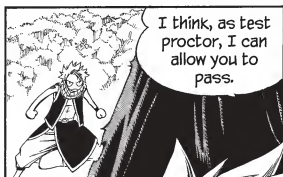
*Natsu
moved
him... ?!*

*Heh heh
heh...*

*Wait! Think about
that! He beat
Natsu to a pulp
without moving
an inch!!!*

*He's right!
Gildarts never
moves a step!!*







**That's
why I'll
never...**

**...
pull my
punches
with
you!**



WHOO

If you're
going to walk
the path of
magic and try
to get to the
top...

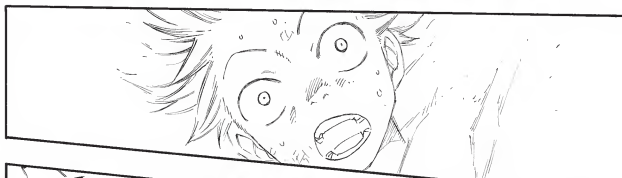
...you're
still
missing
something
you need.

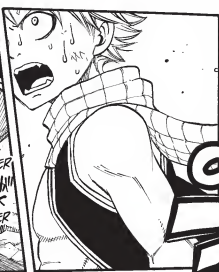
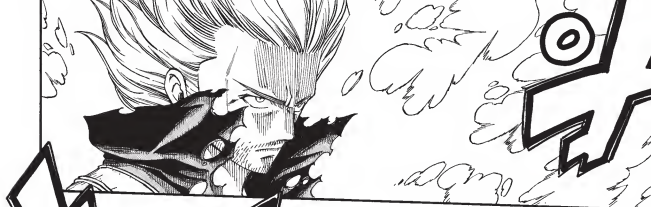


SHIVER



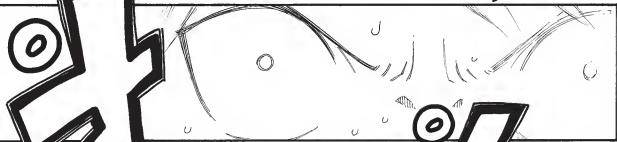
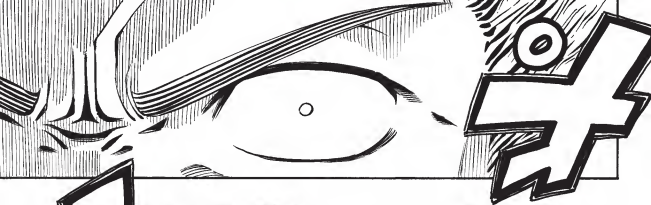
I'll let you know what that is!

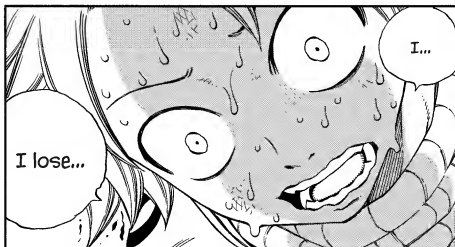
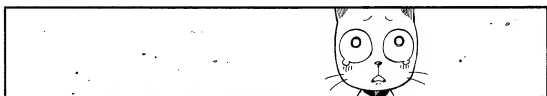
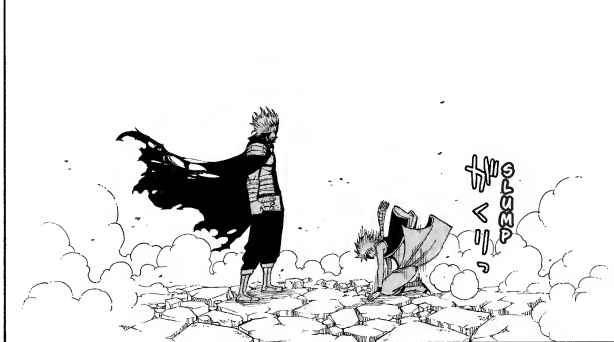


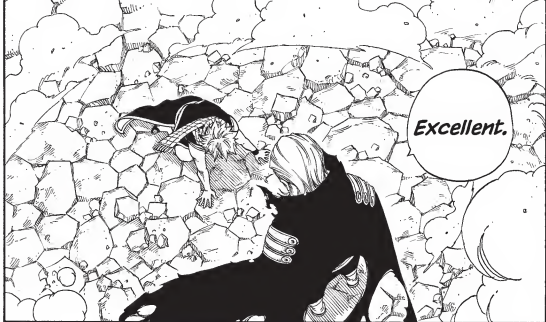


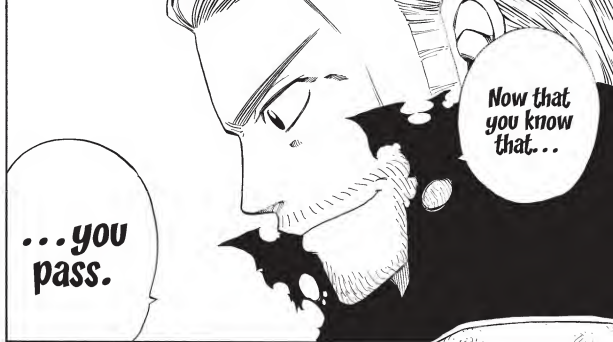
W
a
a
a
a
a
h
!!!





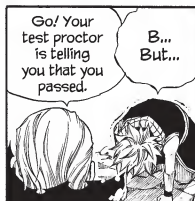






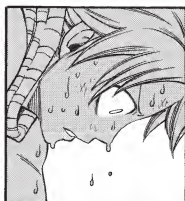
...you
pass.

Now that
you know
that...



Go! Your
test proctor
is telling
you that you
passed.

B...
But...



But...this
isn't the
end of your
test.

We're talking
about the
Master. You're
going to have
tougher tests
than this one.

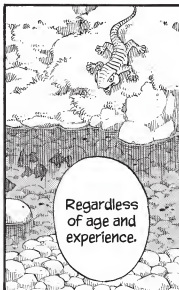
What I'm going to say now is not as a test proctor but as your friend.



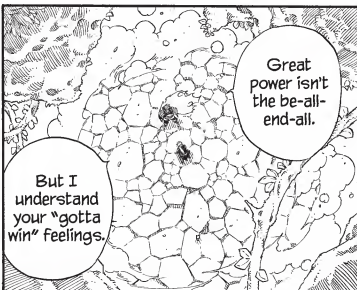
You can do it.



So have faith in yourself.

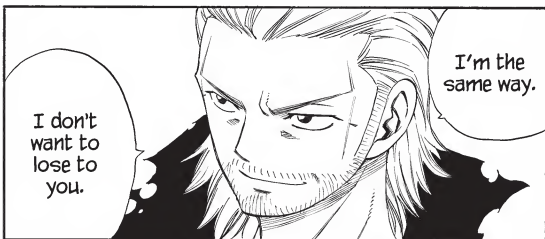


Regardless of age and experience.



But I understand your "gotta win" feelings.

Great power isn't the be-all-end-all.

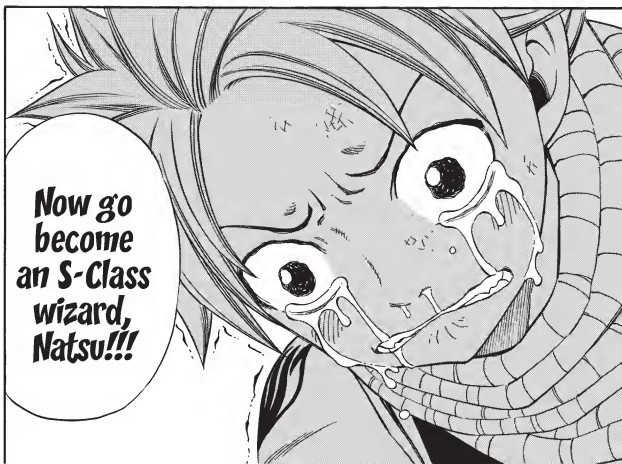


I don't want to lose to you.

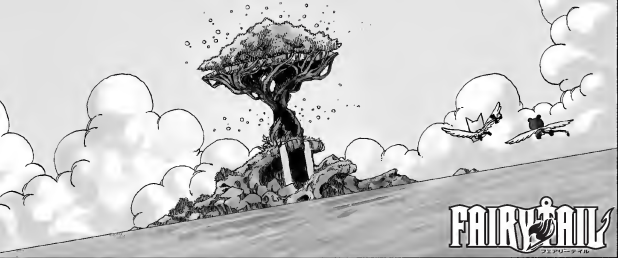
I'm the same way.



**I'll fight
you again
anytime.**



**Now go
become
an S-Class
wizard,
Natsu!!!**

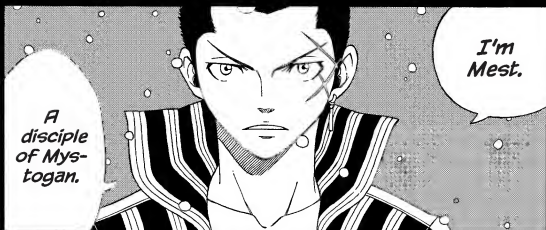


Chapter 207: Mest





 **FAIRYTAIL**





Okay.

What's with this guy?



Pay no attention.

I want to know what snow tastes like.



When there's something I want to know, I get caught up. It's a bad habit.

Forgive me.



Is that any way to ask for a favor?!!

Would you give me a hand?



Please! Help me.

Wendy!

With your strength, I think I can understand the S-Class world.



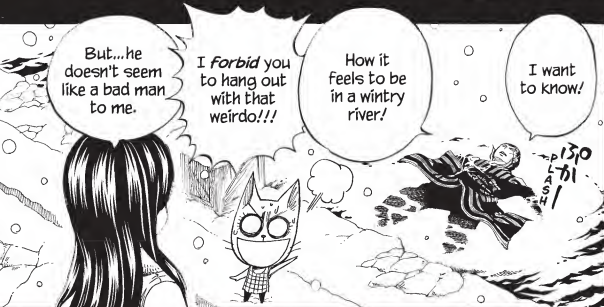
チラリ
GLANCE



Of
course
the
answer
is no!!

Huh...?
But...

I
couldn't
...



But...he
doesn't seem
like a bad man
to me.

I forbid you
to hang out
with that
weirdo!!!

How it
feels to be
in a wintry
river!

I want
to know!

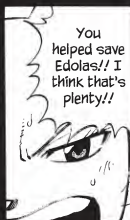
130
LASH!



But that's
only true in
hindsight!

I didn't
do that on
purpose...

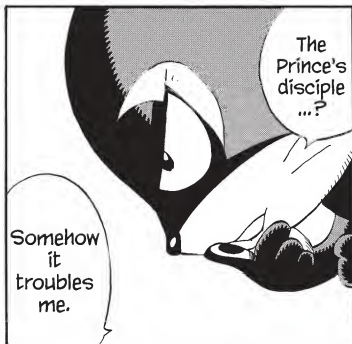
No
means
no!!!



You
helped save
Edolas!! I
think that's
plenty!!



Besides, Mystogan
saved my life, and
I wasn't able to do
anything for him in
return.





But...I must
not fail to follow
in my master's
footsteps
!!!



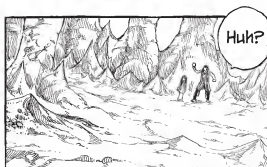
Of course
they're
strong!

I never
knew they
were that
strong!

Kh...



Mest-
san!!





DOZ



No... It's okay. More importantly, are you all right?



It's because I wasn't any help...
Waaah...

Awww! I flunked for another year...

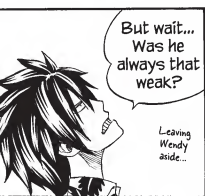
And I said I'd do my best for you...



Assuming that Natsu and Fried made it easily through the first test...

...then we've got a pretty clear shot.
No... Cana could be pretty scary.

Great!!
We've gotten through the first test!!



But wait... Was he always that weak?

Leaving Wendy aside...

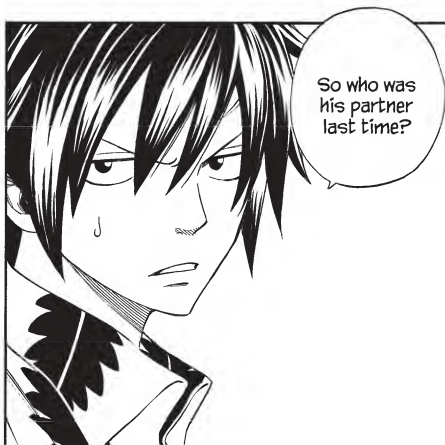
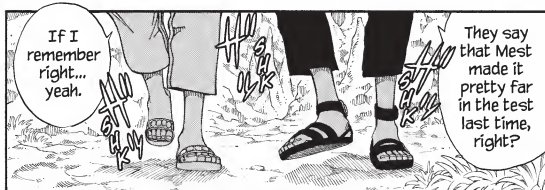


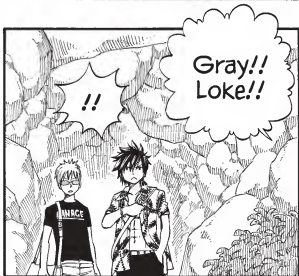
Actually, I think we did a great job in beating Mest.



Yeah, I know that.

Don't say that, idiot!! There's no "clear path" to becoming an S-Class wizard!







Anyway,
congrats.

Who's
lucky?! I
haven't gotten
to beat up
anybody yet!

We were lucky
to get the
"Peace and
Quiet" route,
huh?

I knew you
guys would
pass the first
test.

HEART
KREUZ



Now... I
suppose
we're all
here, hm?

SHK
HI

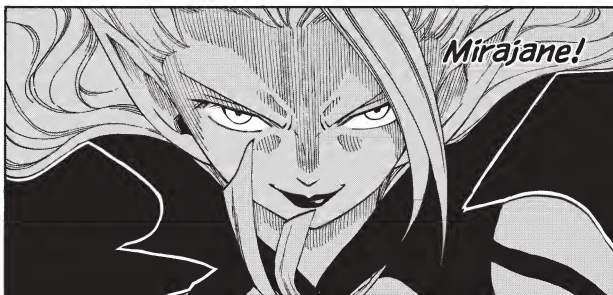
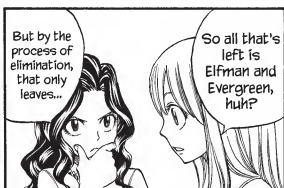
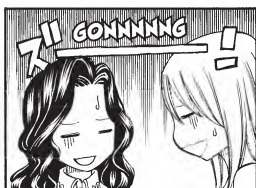


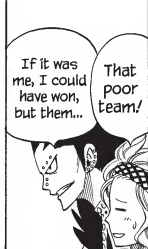
He's
over
there.

What
about
Natsu?

You guys are
the only ones
who passed
the first
test?!







If it was me, I could have won, but them...

That poor team!

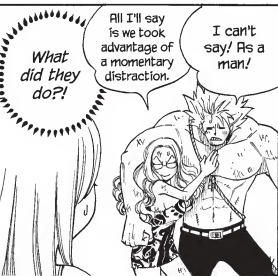
Hold it one minute!!

!!



We've passed the first test!!

We're here! We defeated big sis!



What did they do?!

All I'll say is we took advantage of a momentary distraction.

I can't say! As a man!



...



How'd you get past Mira?



What?!

In any case...

AHEM!



NEXT

PASSED THE FIRST TEST!!

These five teams...



FIERCE BATTLE

...pass the first test!

FIERCE BATTLE

PEACE AND QUIET

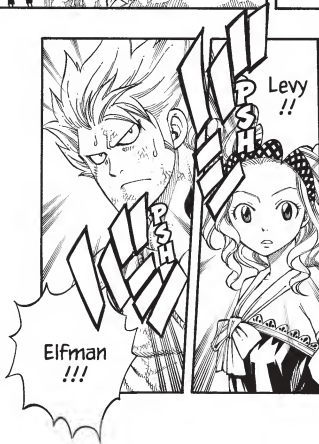
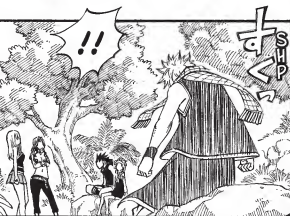
FIERCE BATTLE ?

BATTLE

BATTLE

...start the second test.

So we will now...





**I'll take
you all on
to become
an S-Class
wizard
!!!!**



**I accept
your
challenge
as a
man!!!!**

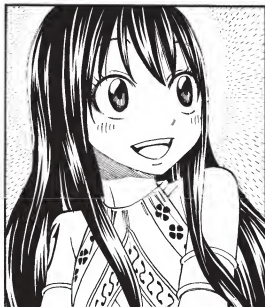
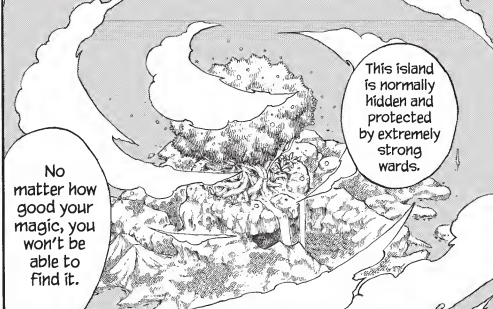


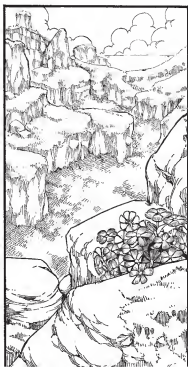
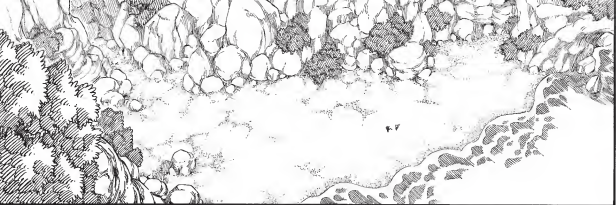
**Same
here!**

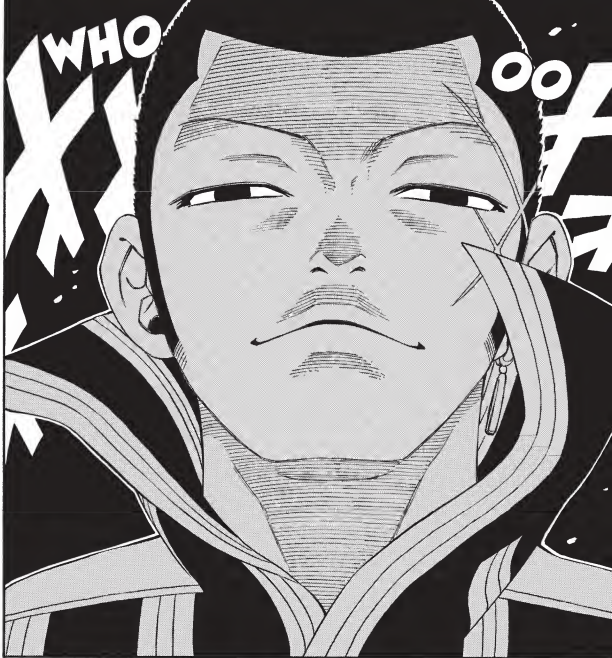


**I won't
lose to
you of all
people!**







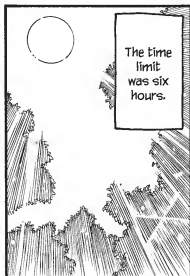
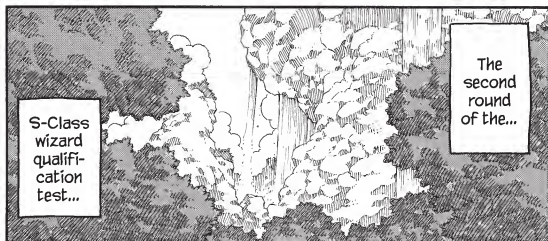


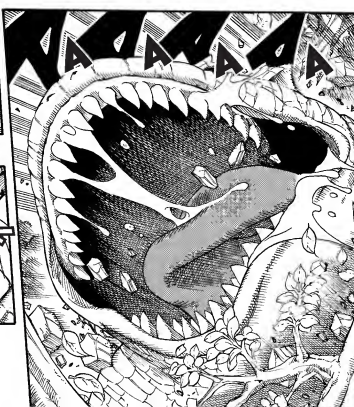
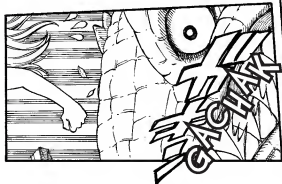
FAIRY TAIL





Chapter 208: Predator of Death







Then why're you running?!

This ain't nothing compared to becoming an S-Class wizard!!!!



Shut up!! Don't order me around!

This way, Evergreen!



I-I think I'm gonna die...

What's with this island?!



...
my
test
!!!!

Quit
gettin' in
the way
of...

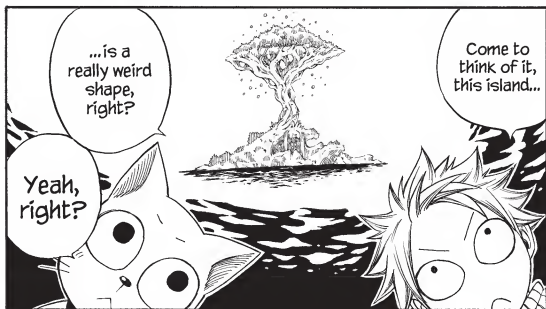






This second test is harder than I thought.

But here we are looking for a grave with no hints or anything!



...is a really weird shape, right?

Yeah, right?

Come to think of it, this island...



Aye, sir !!!

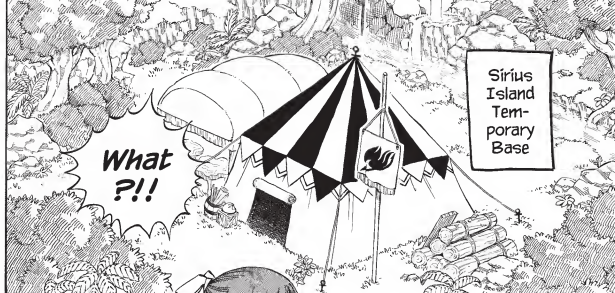
I knew teaming up with you was the right idea!

Let's go to the top!!



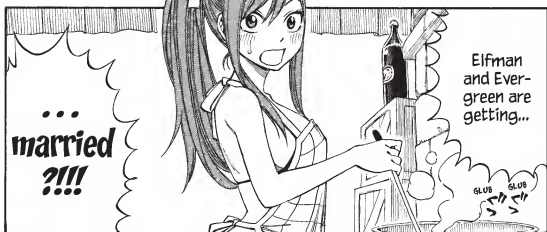
It sure is!!

That up-top area is pretty suspicious, ain't it?



Sirius
Island
Temporary
Base

What
?!!



...
married
?!!!

Elfman
and Ever-
green are
getting...

GLUB GLUB
> <



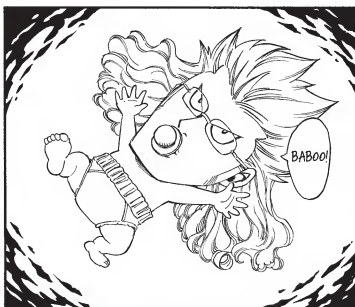
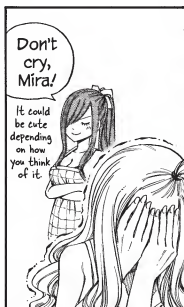
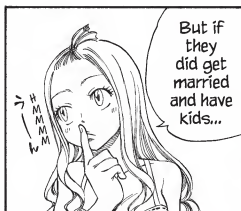
No... I think
they said it just to
shake me. That was
probably their plan.
I shouldn't have let
that get to me.

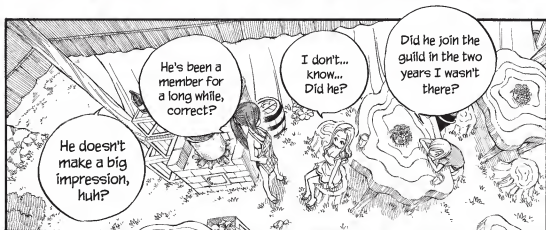
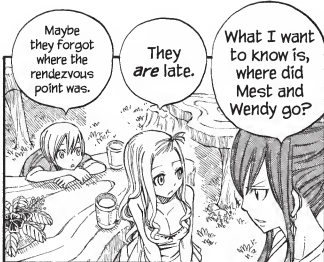
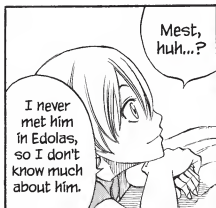
Wait a second!!
When is the
ceremony?! Wait
a second. When'd
they even start
going out?!!

LIVSS!!

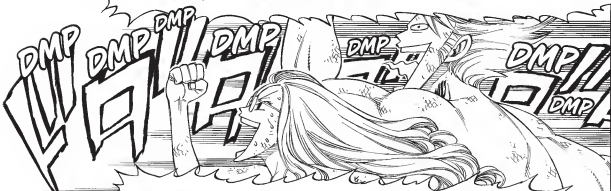


...And while
I was in
shock from
the news,
they hit me
with one big
attack.



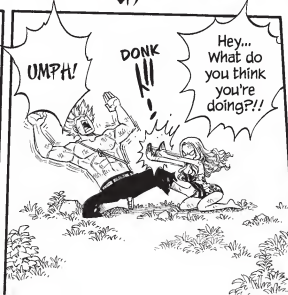


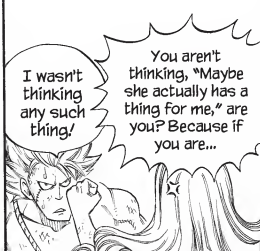
A MAN CAN'T RUN FROM AN ENEMY!!!!



SHUT UP!!!! CAN'T YOU KEEP QUIET FOR ONE MINUTE!!!!









At least here, I thought that there wouldn't be anybody...



I see... This island is being managed by a guild.

Guild?

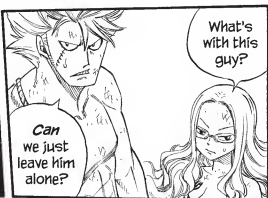
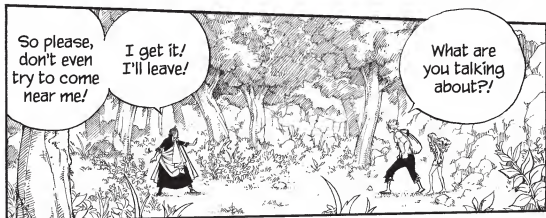


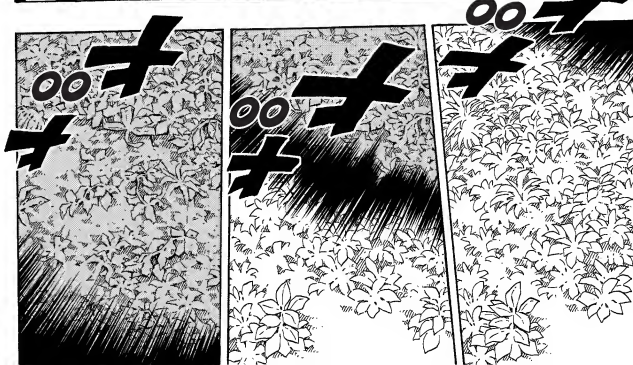
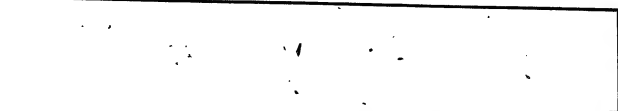
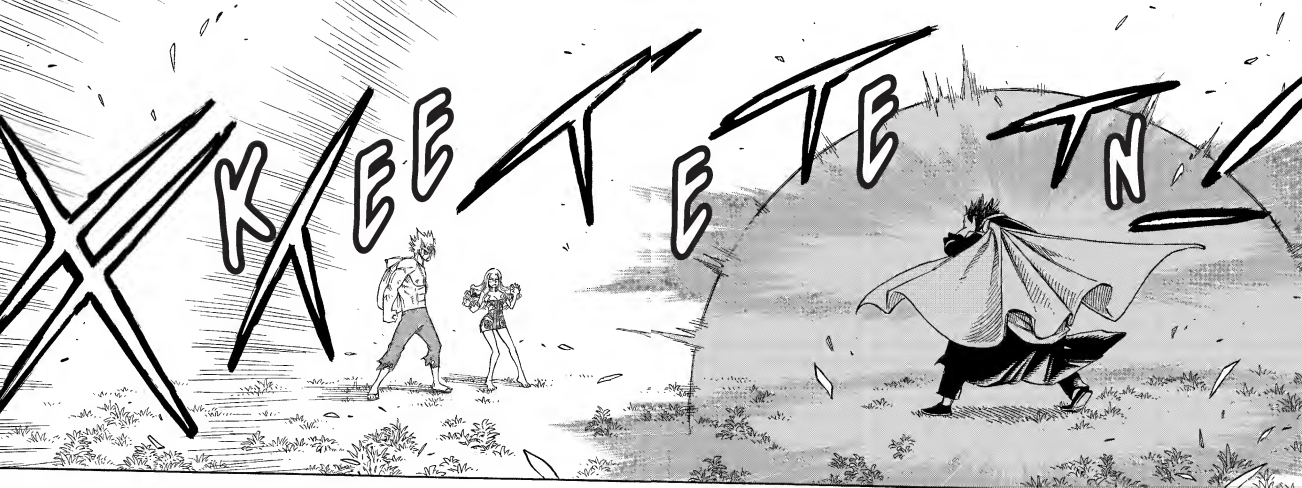
Only guild members are allowed on this island!

Who the hell're you?!!



**No
!!!!**



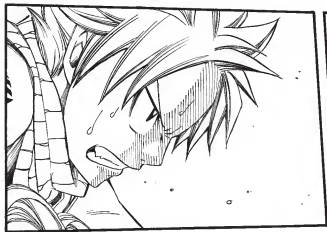




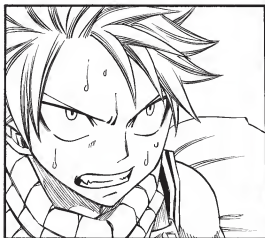


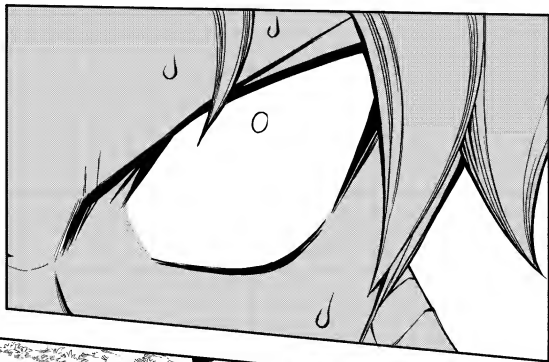


Chapter 209: The Black Wizard





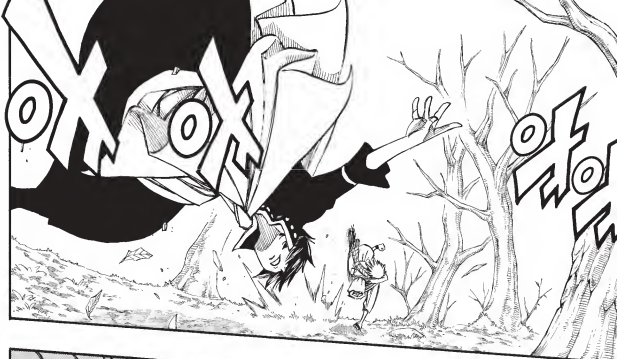




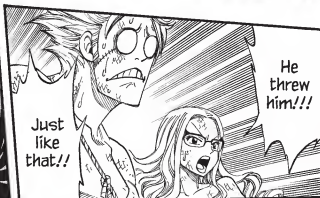


Who
the
hell
are
you
?!!!!

BLOW



I see...



Just
like
that!!

He
threw
him!!!



...possibly
break me.



Natsu
can't...

Not
yet...

Not
yet, it
seems...



...and the
only one
who can
stop me is
Natsu...



I don't
want to kill
anyone else...

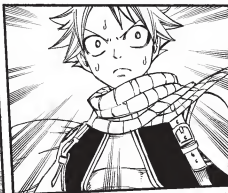
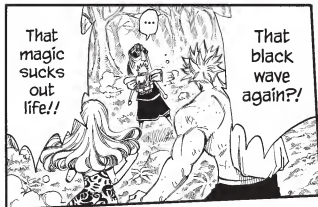
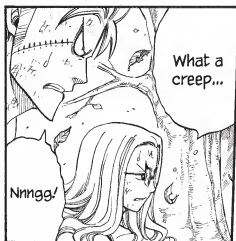


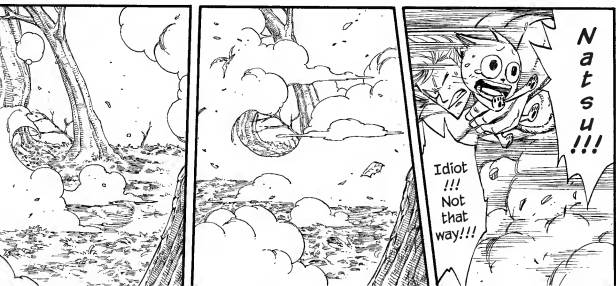
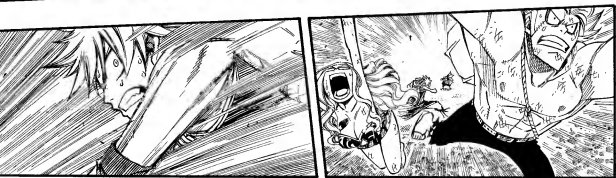
I got
no idea
who
you are
!!!!

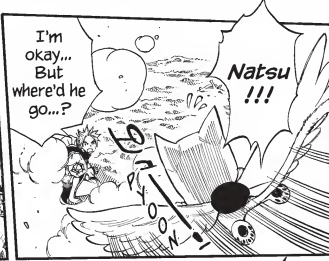
Say
your
name
!!!!



But
he
can't
do it
yet!!!!







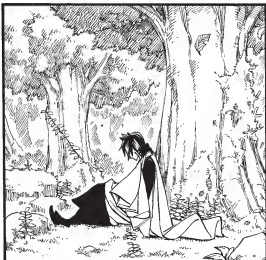
*Did Igneel's
scarf absorb
the magic in
Natsu's place?*



*He
ruined
the
scarf
Igneel
gave
me...!!*



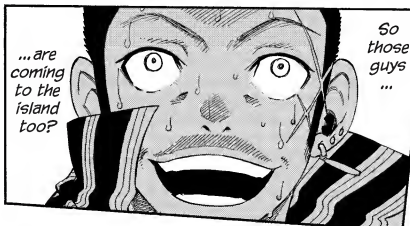
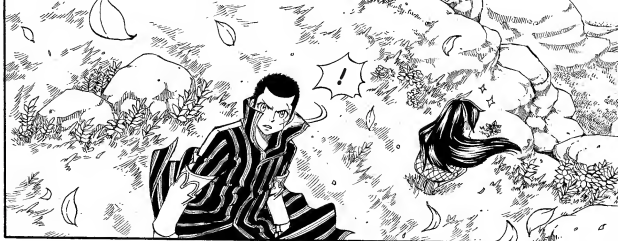
*I
am...*



*...by the
world!*

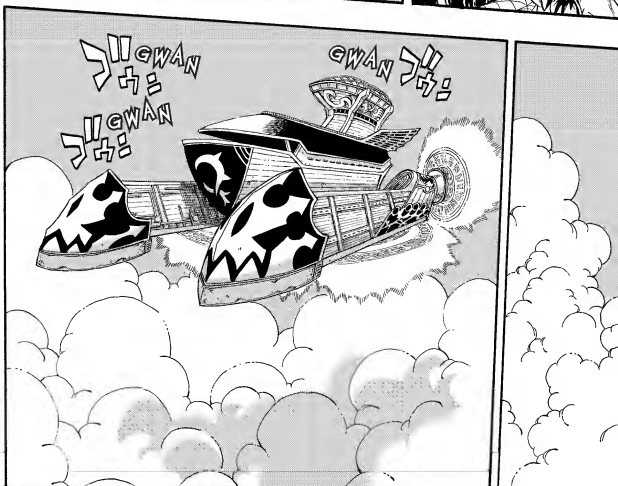
*... still
being
rejected...*





...are
coming
to the
island
too?

So
those
guys
...



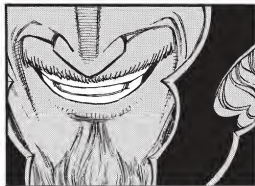


We've finally found him!

Though it seems he's still sleeping.



ROLL
ROLL
ROLL

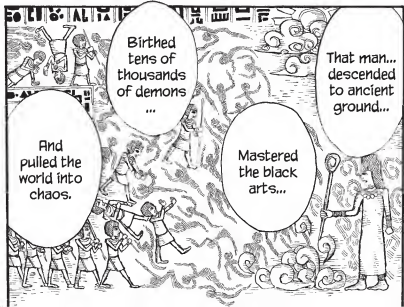


It appears the time has come ...

...Master Hades.



The most evil and powerful force in the history of the magical world...



Birthing tens of thousands of demons ...

And pulled the world into chaos.

Mastered the black arts...

That man... descended to ancient ground...



**ZEREF
THE
BLACK
WIZARD!**

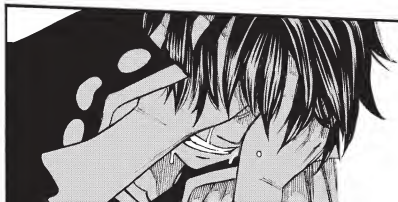
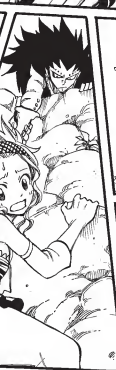
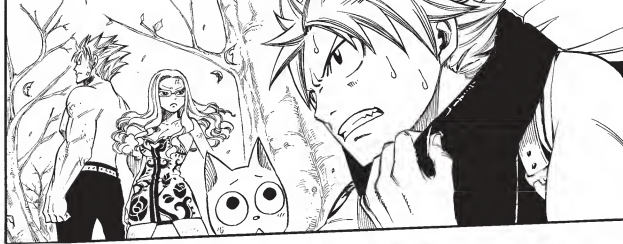
RUMBLE

RUMBLE

Let us
begin!

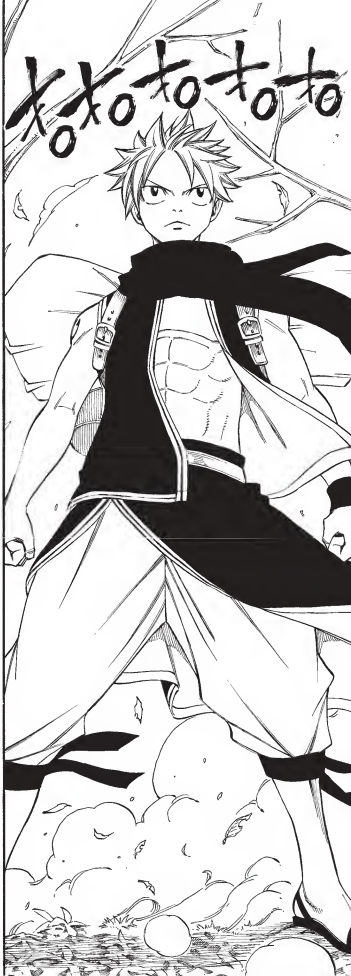
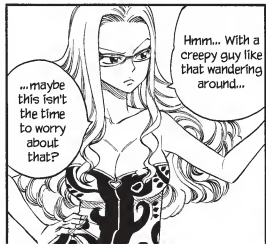
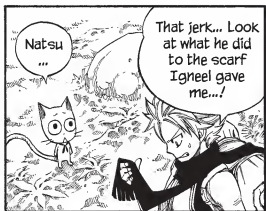
Set
course
for the
Fairy
island!

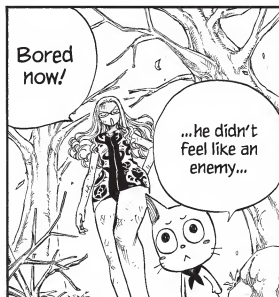
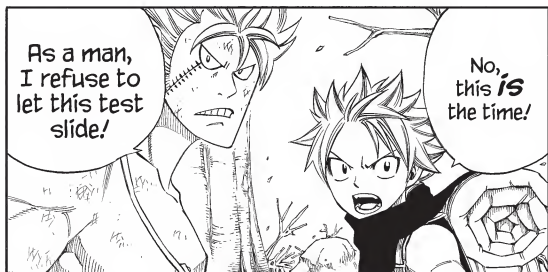
**DARK GUILD
GRIMOIRE HEART
MASTER HADES**

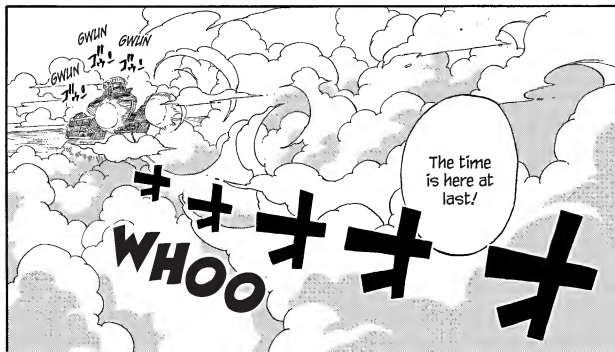


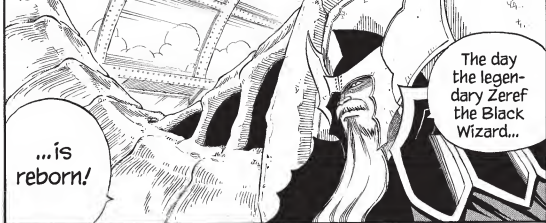


Chapter 210, Stupid Gajeel









...is
reborn!

The day
the legendar-
y Zeref
the Black
Wizard...

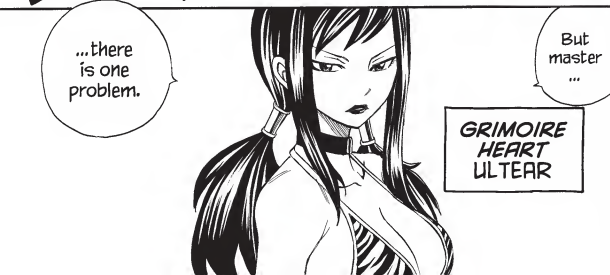


And we will
awaken the
thing that
sleeps within
him!

RUMBLE RUMBLE



All the keys
are safely in
my hands!



...there
is one
problem.

But
master
...

**GRIMOIRE
HEART
ULTEAR**

A black and white illustration of the Fairy Tail guild building. The building is a large, ornate stone structure with a central archway. Above the archway is a sign that reads "FAIRY TAIL". The building has multiple towers and decorative elements. The sky is cloudy.

**Fairy
Tail!**

**The
strongest
of all the
guilds of
Fiore...**

A black and white illustration of a woman with long, dark hair, wearing a striped top and a large, ornate necklace. She is looking down with a serious expression.

The main
members of
Fairy Tail are
all gathered
on that island
right now.

The guild that
defeated the
Oración Seis,
cornerstone
of the Balam
Alliance.

A black and white illustration of Natsu Dragneel, a young man with spiky, flame-like hair. He is wearing a dark jacket and has a confident, slightly mischievous smile. He is pointing his right index finger upwards.

We'll
take
those
fools...

A black and white illustration showing Natsu Dragneel in the center, looking towards the right. To his left is a woman with long dark hair, wearing a striped top and a large necklace. To his right is a small figure with spiky hair, wearing a dark coat and a hat. The background shows a building with a checkered pattern.

And?!
What about
them?!
They are
nothing!!



Bah!
We must not
make light of
the enemy!



...and
turn
them
all to
ashes!!

**GRIMOIRE
HEART
ZANCROW**



I-I-I-I-
I-I-I-I-
I-I...

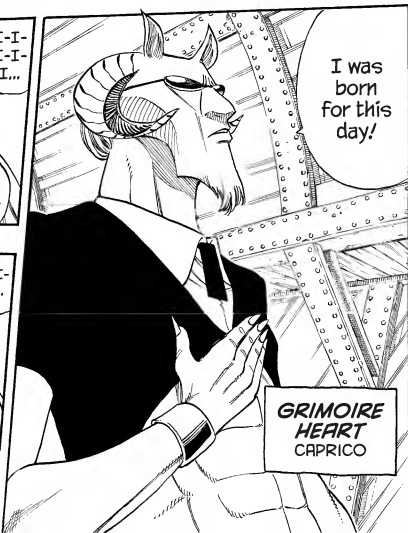
With it
released...



Uh...
weh...

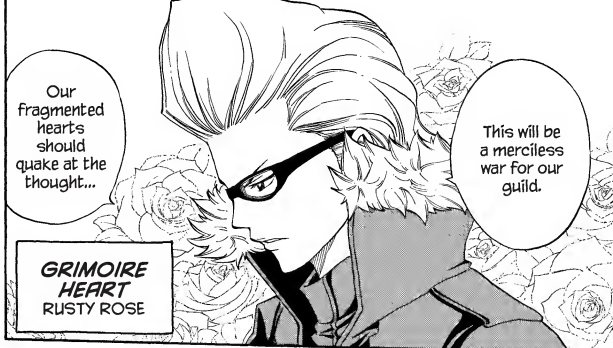
I-I-I-I-
I-I...

...our
desires...



I was
born
for this
day!

**GRIMOIRE
HEART
CAPRICO**



Our
fragmented
hearts
should
quake at the
thought...

This will be
a merciless
war for our
guild.

**GRIMOIRE
HEART**
RUSTY ROSE



Uh-
eh...

Translation:
"I was
thinking
exactly the
same thing."

You're
talking
too
fast!

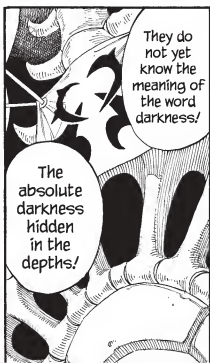
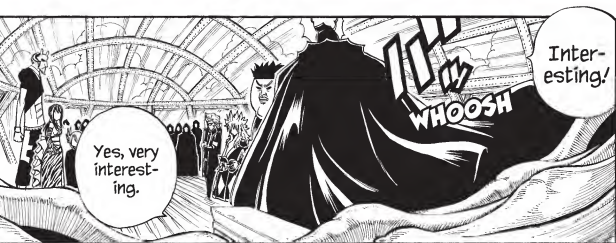
I was thinking
exactly the same
thing!

**GRIMOIRE
HEART**
KAIN HIKARU



Can you
fight,
Merudy?

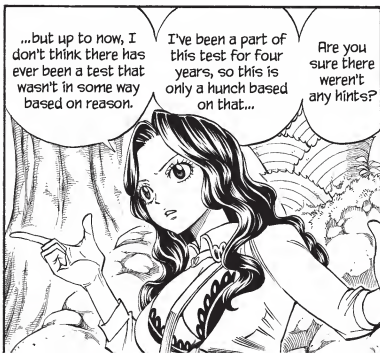
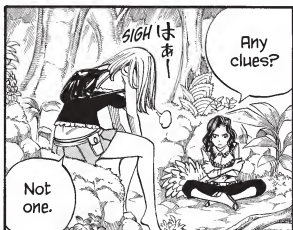
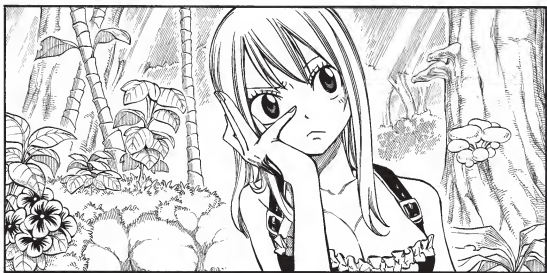
...

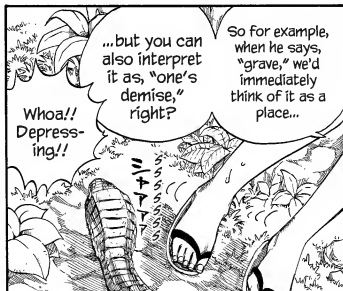
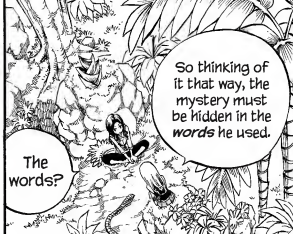


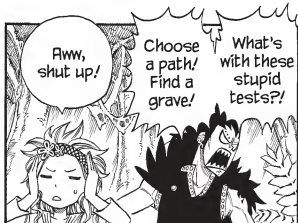


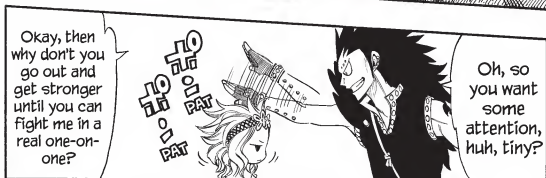
**We're
coming
for
you!!!**

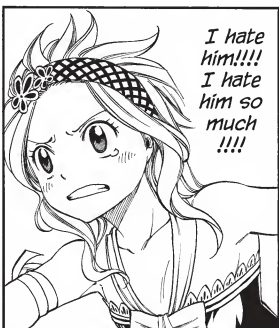
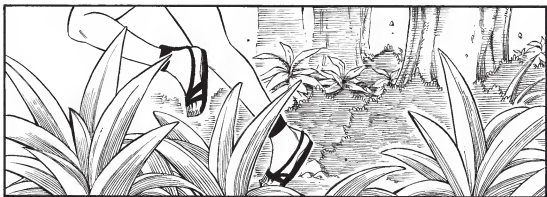
**Fairy
Tail!!!**









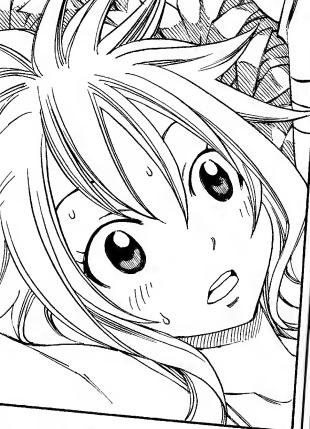






*See translation notes for more about this character's attacks.







Yeah.



So don't
ever run
away from
me again!



So...

Who are
these
jerks
anyway?

... why
are they
here?!

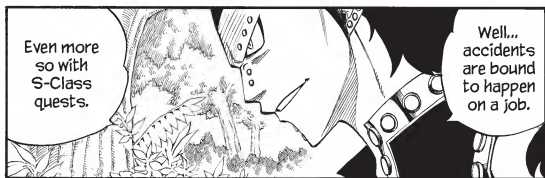
They're the
strongest
dark guild,
but...

**Grimoire
Heart.**





Chapter 211: Kawazu and Yomazu



They're one corner of
the Balam Alliance...
They wouldn't attack
us for no reason...



But...we're
up against
Grimoire
Heart.



...then we
can't say
we're fit to
be S-Class,
huh?

And if
we can't get
clean up after
an accident on
this level...

There are
no rules
in war!
Peron!

Peh
peh
peh!

**GRIMOIRE
HEART**
KAWAZU



Rules
and more
rules!!
Until you
can't
breathe!!

Nwa ha ha
ha!! That's
what you
get from
an official
guild!!

**GRIMOIRE
HEART**
YOMAZU



What are
you guys
after?!

War?

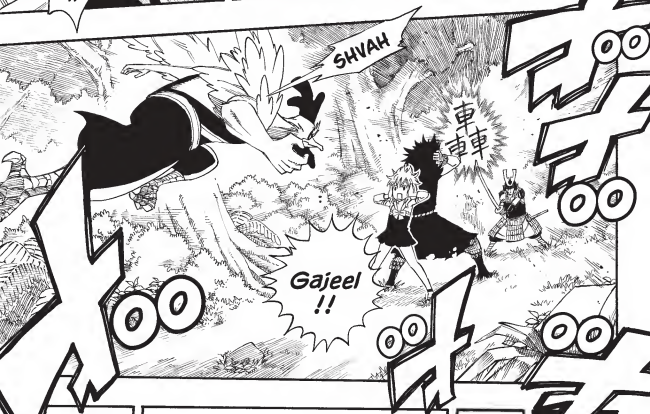




We are
here to
hunt
fairies
!!!!



My
ears...







ROAR

**EGG
BUSTER
!!!!**

*Eeek
!!*

SPLT

GAHH!

SPLT

SPLT

SPLT

SPLT

SPLT

ROAR

*Aaaa
!!*

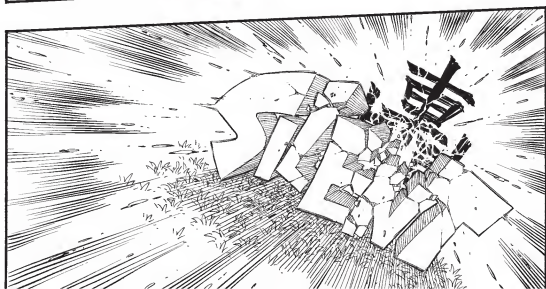
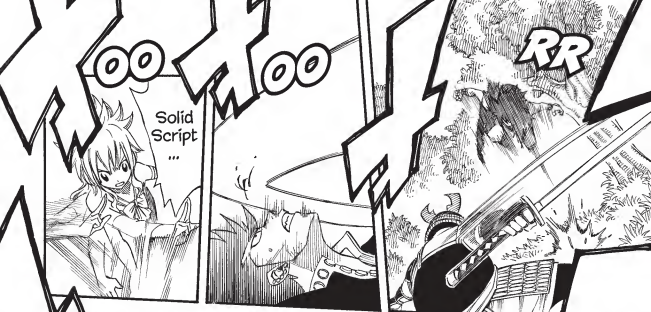
KH!

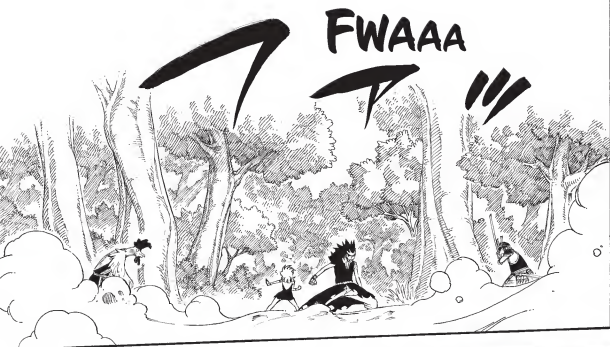
ROAR

That
noise is
drowning
out their
footsteps!

*Damn
it!!*

ROAR







*Slice



GWAAH !!



KAKINK

Too many...

A black and white manga-style illustration of a samurai character in a dynamic, shouting pose. The character is wearing a traditional samurai helmet (kabuto) with a large, flowing crest (maedate) and a dark, patterned kimono. He is standing on a wooden floor, with his body angled towards the left. His mouth is wide open in a shout, and a large speech bubble to his right contains the text "Nngh!!". The background is a simple, stylized representation of a room with a wooden floor and a wall. The overall style is reminiscent of classic Japanese manga art.

This jerk... He's shattering my iron scales so easily...

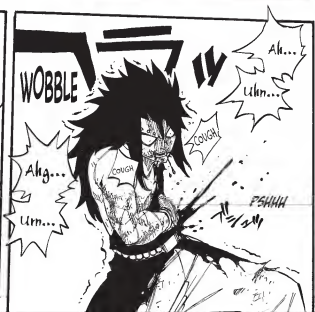
A black and white manga panel depicting Gohan in a highly dynamic and intense pose. He is shown from the waist up, leaning forward with his arms outstretched, as if caught in a powerful force or performing a technique. His hair is spiky and wild, and his expression is one of strain or exertion. The panel is filled with large, bold sound effects: 'GAH!' at the bottom left, 'GUH!' at the top right, and 'ZAN' and 'BA' in the center. There are also stylized Japanese characters (katakana) like 'ザ' and 'バ' scattered around, emphasizing the impact and energy of the scene. The background is minimal, with some motion lines suggesting a fast-paced action.

7 GUY!

新刊



*Pierce





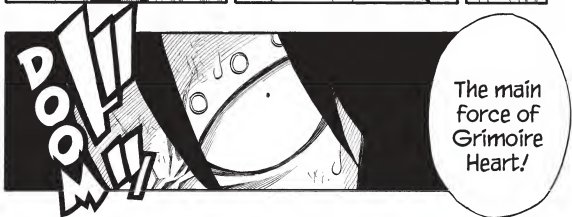
Gajeel!!!!

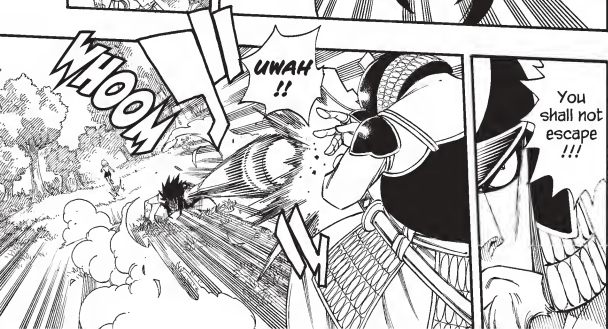
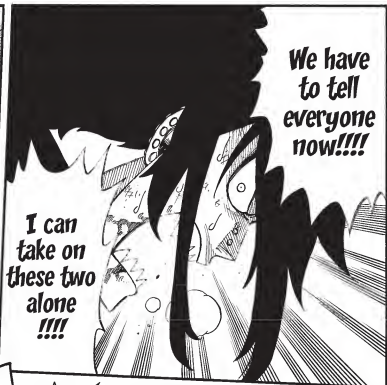


Zan

WAAAH!!!

NARU-
KAMI
!!!!







What are
you waiting
for?! Get
away now!!



Gajeel
!!



Iron
...?!



XIBOM!



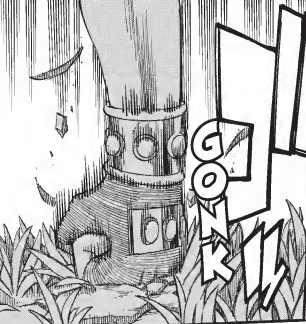
Course
not!!



Please...



...just
don't
die!



It'll be
more fun
to hunt her
down-pero!

It doesn't
matter-
peron!

You idiot!!
You let a
little girl
escape!!



...on
Fairy
Tail?

An
all-out
war...



*You made
your biggest
mistake
when you
decided to
tangle with
Fairy Tail!!!!*



I've
seen
...

H-He
can still
stand...?

...
that
before
...

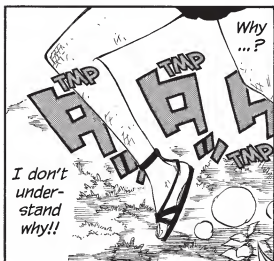
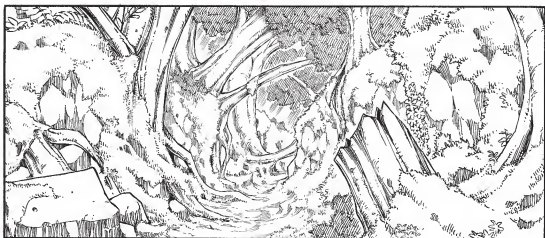


*You're
gonna taste
the same
kind of
pain!!!*

GONG



Chapter 212: Soul of Iron



I don't
under-
stand
why!!

Why
...?



All of
Grimoire
Heart is
going to
attack!!!



Some-
thing
awful's
going to
happen
!!

But I
have
to tell
every-
body!





What
happened?!
Where did you
get those
wounds...?

Levy?



Erza...
Juvia...

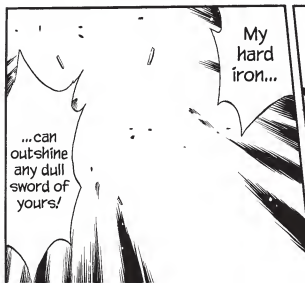


*Iron Dragon's...

Tetsu-
ryû
no*...

... HôKô !!!

WHOOOM



BWAA

**I'll
win
this
!!!!**

**TETSURYO
KEN!!!!**

GWAA

'Iron Dragon Sword!

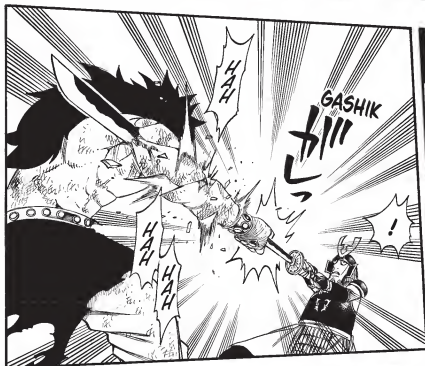
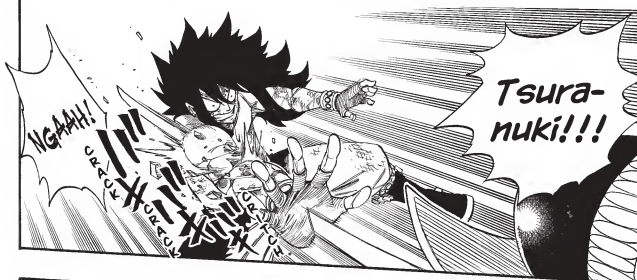
**Peh
peh
peh!**

NGHA!

CLANG

**An
opening!**

HIZATT







Just tell
me what
you're
really
after!!!



Don't
even joke
about
that
!!!!



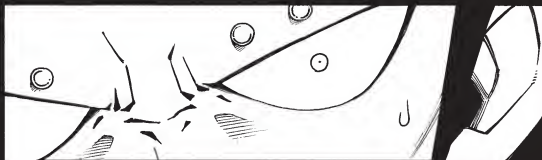
Why don't
you come
join my
guild?

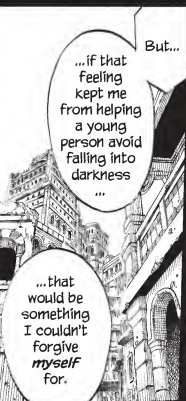
There's no
reason for
you to send
yourself
into the
dark.



*But not one
person in the
world can
handle total
isolation.*

There are
people
around who
like being
alone.







I'm just
showing you
a path to
tomorrow.

I am not
trying to
"save" you.



...is
something
only
you can
decide.

Whether
you follow
that path or
not...



I am...

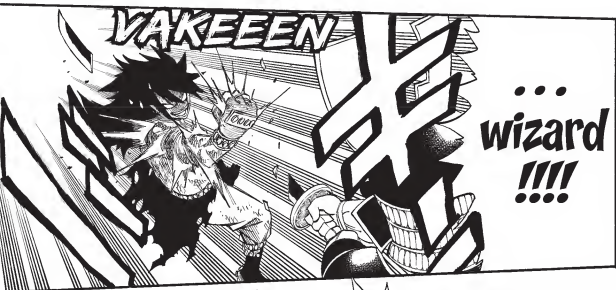
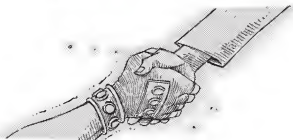




...a
Fairy
Tail
...



Wh-
Where
is that
power
coming
from?!!



VAKEEN

...
wizad
!!!!



WAN

Dragon
Slayer
Ultimate
Attack
...

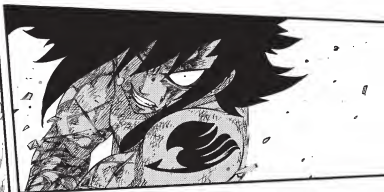
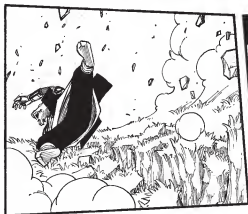


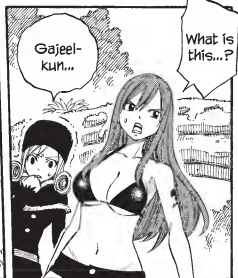
GH!



**GÔMA
TETSU-
JINKEN*
!!!!!!**

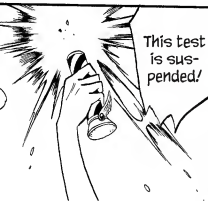
KABOOM







Seven
Kin
...?!



This test
is sus-
pended!



The Seven
Kin of
Purgatory!



An...
enemy
?

How,
on this
island
...?

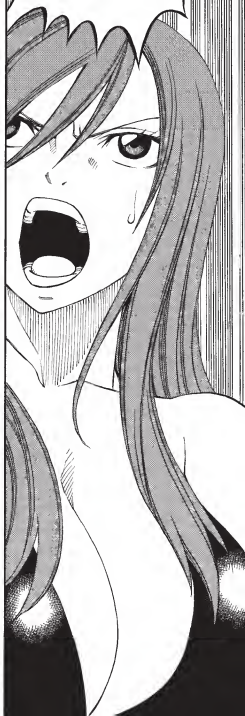


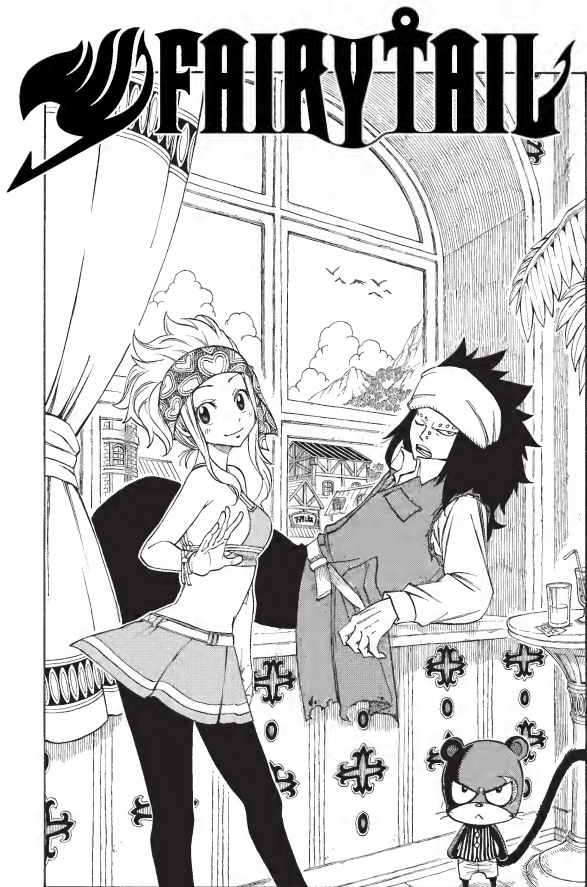
SHIP
AAAAA!

Repel
the
invad-
ers
!!!!

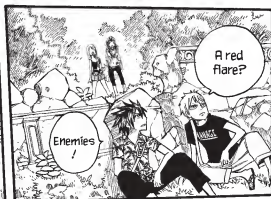
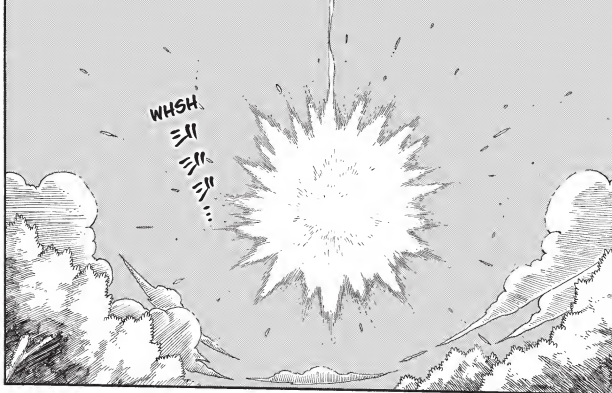
Condi-
tion
Red
!!!!

All
members,
prepare for
battle!!!!





Chapter 213: One of the Seven Kin



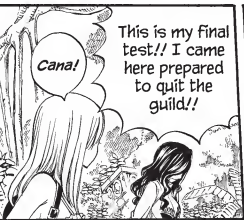


...then we're gonna turn the tables on 'em!

I don't know who these people are, but if they want a fight with Fairy Tail...

Aye, sir!

BASH



Cana!

This is my final test!! I came here prepared to quit the guild!!



Why...? At a time like this...!

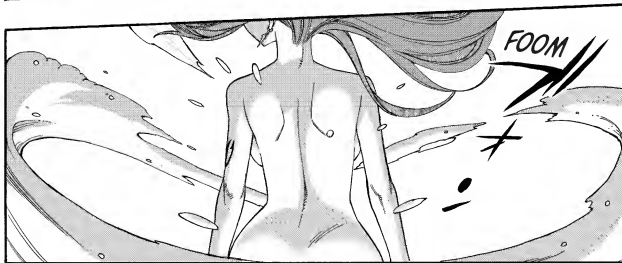
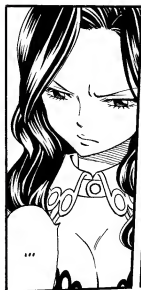


If there's anybody who thinks they can stop me, let 'em try!!!



I'm not quitting the test!!!

Don't make me laugh!!





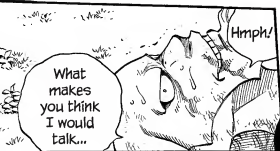
Erza-san,
what do we
do now?

I'm going
to bring
Gajeel to
camp.

The possibility
exists they are
wandering and
do not know
the location of
the camp.

First order of
business is to
find Mest and
Wendy.

SHAKINK
≡/≠



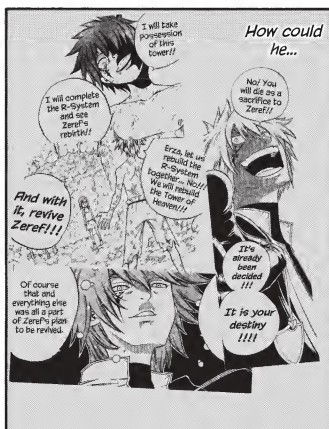
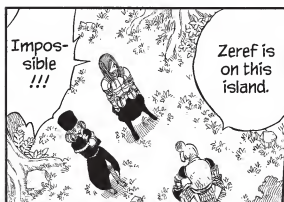
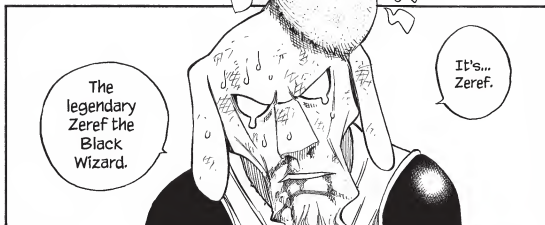
What
makes
you think
I would
talk...

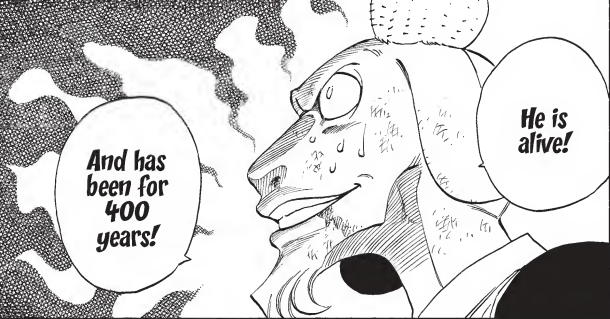
Hmph!



Now...
Tell me what
you're after.







And has
been for
400
years!

He is
alive!



And when
Zeref
awakens...

...the entire
world will be
suffused in
darkness!



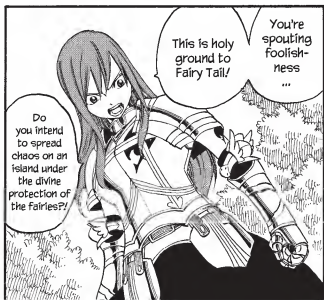
I still
don't
believe
it...

However...
Master Hades
has said that
Zeref is currently
"sleeping."



Soon, Master
Hades' top
generals will
arrive...

...and I'd
suggest you
not under-
estimate the
Seven Kin of
Purgatory!



Do
you intend
to spread
chaos on an
island under
the divine
protection of
the fairies?!

This is holy
ground to
Fairy Tail!

You're
spouting
foolish-
ness
...



My
superior
...

...
Caprico-
sama!



Rusty
Rose!



The time
wizard,
Ultear...



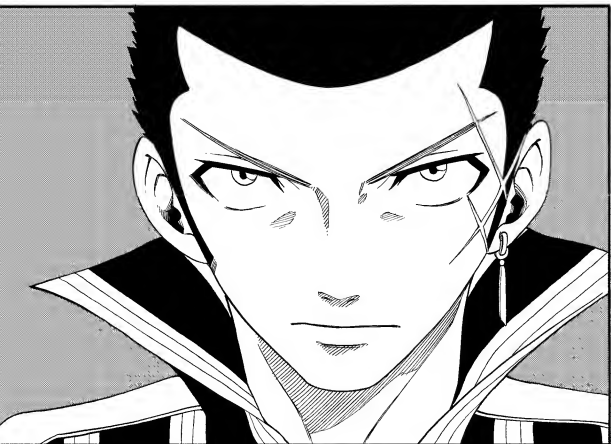
Merudy
...

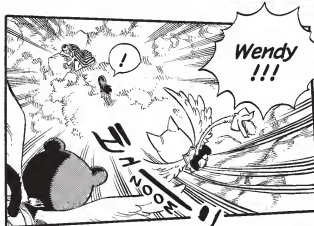


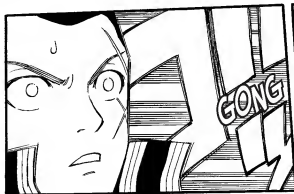
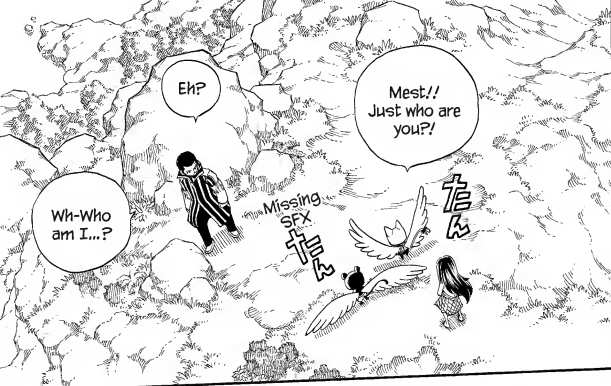
Zancrow
...



Kain
Hikaru...









Just
what are
you?!

Hey!!
What's with
you two all of
a sudden?!!

...
You be
quiet!



My guess
is you have
magic that
manipulates
people's
memories.



Wh-What...
are you
talking
about...?



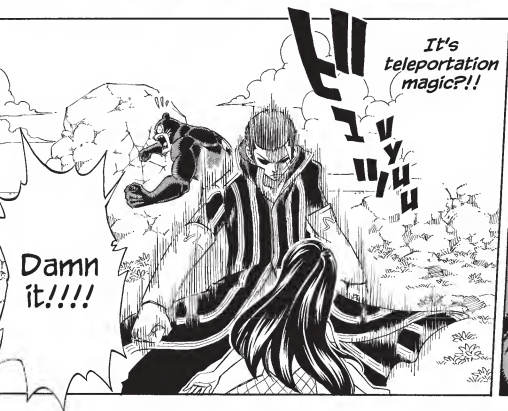
And you can't make
up any excuses for
not knowing the
meaning of a guild
flare signal!

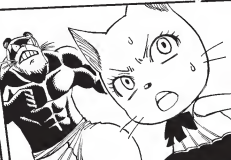


But when I think
about it, and add
in what I know
about the Prince,
your story is full
of holes! When
I try to think
of anybody who
knows you well, no
names come to
mind!



You used it
on the people
of the guild to
make them think
you are a guild
member...







Come out!!

Who's there ?!



... Wendy ?!

He protected ...

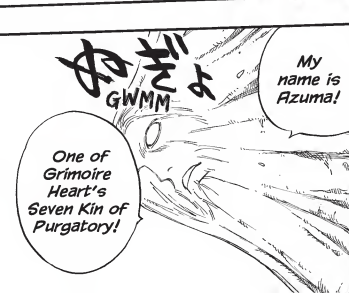


An attack ?!

From where ?!

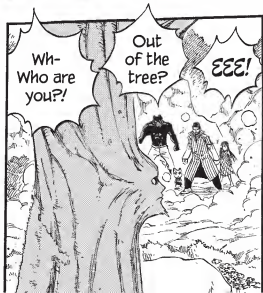


I'm surprised you saw through me.



One of Grimoire Heart's Seven Kin of Purgatory!

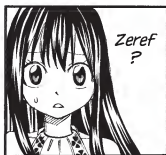
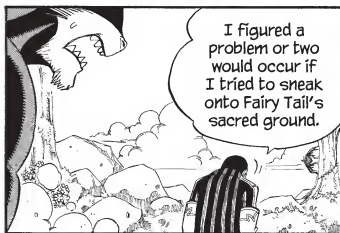
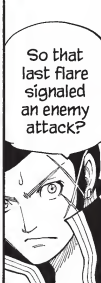
My name is Azuma!



Wh- Who are you?!

Out of the tree?

EEE!





I infiltrated Fairy Tail to find an excuse to shut you down!

You still haven't figured it out?

I'm an agent of the council!



Ha ha/ If I can shut **them** down, then the sky's the limit for me!

It ended the moment Grimoire Heart came out of hiding to this island.

But that's all over.

Well, well...

You're kidding ...

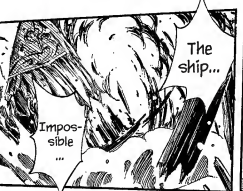
The council ?!

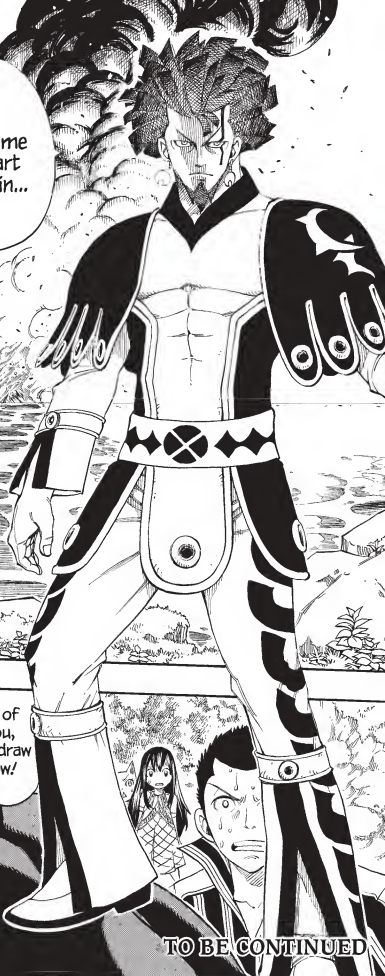


Battle-ship?

I can make a mass arrest and crush the heart of the devil in one stroke!

I also arranged to have the main force of the Council's Heavily Armored Capture and Containment Division and their battleship on hand just in case. It was the right choice.





Let me
start
again...

Do you think
I can get to
work now,
officer?

GRIMOIRE HEART
MEMBER OF THE
SEVEN KIN OF
PURGATORY
AZUMA



All of
you,
withdraw
now!



TO BE CONTINUED

あとがき

Afterword

Ahhhhhh!! The famous hidden one-shot short story “Welcome to Fairy Hills!!” will be included in the **Special Japanese Edition of Volume 26**, and you will soon be able to read it in a small booklet edition!! On top of that, there will be a “Welcome to Fairy Hills!!” **anime DVD** also included!! Not only that, but a **Happy Cell Phone Strap** will also come in the package for only **1980 yen!!*** Yahoo!! What a feast! Come to think of it, I'm putting on a few pounds myself. (cries) Anyway, I'm sorry for the sudden advertisement, but Volume 26 is becoming an irresistible volume! It's got so much going for it!! There are a lot of scenes you could consider a bit sexy – some I think may seem a bit too much for the anime...! Or so I thought until I saw what they did with the anime...! The story of “Welcome to Fairy Hills!!” is about the Fairy Tail women's dorm, and how Lucy gets into a treasure hunt inside the dorm. When it was printed in the magazine, it had a huge impact on the readership, and I must say, it's a story I'm very fond of myself. So I ask you all to please check it out!

Ah! Also there will be two different editions for Volume 26, the **Normal Edition** and the **Special Edition**, each with their own packaging. Make sure you don't get confused thinking they're two different books! The main story running in the books will be exactly the same. The Normal Edition will be a *tankobon* exactly like they always are. But with the Special Edition with all its added extras, it'd be really easy to mistakenly buy both editions! If you do, please don't inundate the editorial office with complaints, okay? Because there aren't many extra pages in this volume, this bonus section didn't turn out to be much more than an advertisement! Sorry!!

*A little over \$20.

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

The Fairy Tail Guild d'Art is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! ♪ Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!

FAIRY TAIL GUILD d'ART



▲ It's a really recent illustration, huh? From now on, things get interesting!



▲ I wonder what she'll do for Fairy Tail during this series?



▲ That was quick! Zancrow!!



▲ This is so nice! It's so simple and refreshing!



▲ You know, I really like seeing girls eating something. Is it just me?



▲ You saw Gajeel-kun do a lot this time! What do you think?



▲ Oh! Cute! Do you think those clothes could be popular?



▲ I guess it's true that there are Erza Nighwalkers fans out there!



▲ Everybody's maids!! They're all like Virgo!!



▲ That castle must have been a pain to draw, huh? A great effort!!



▲ Watch for the manga version of this costume in the special edition of Volume 26!



▲ Oh!! That's well drawn! And that guy makes me kind of nostalgic.



▲ And here's Levy-san, who worked pretty hard this time, huh?



▲ Wow!! That's good!! And the balance between black and white is excellent!



Saitama Prefecture, Sazan Sou

By sending in letters or postcards you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code and any other information you include to the author as is. Please keep that in mind.

SuperGuy



Yui Ueda

25-Year-Old Dreamer



Bobby Ôsawa

This is a record of a hero (Hiro Mashima) and his brave warriors (assistants) that appeared in Weekly Shonen Magazine, Issue 2010, Number 42 when three installments were all drawn at once!

Three Meals at Once

Letting his instincts lead his life.



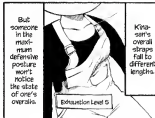
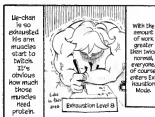
Kgini

Amazing Power of Good-Looking Men



King Kobayashi

Pretty Ominous, Huh...?

**Shô Nakamura**

FROM HIRU MASHIMA



The above drawing is from when I was looking at a bookend at home and suddenly wanted to draw it. I don't remember when I bought it, but it's a bookend with a kind of orange-colored dog, or maybe bear.

Come to think of it, I really don't remember when I bought it. How long has this thing been in my house? This weird-colored animal!

Translation Notes:

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more art than science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction with our translation of the work, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.



Page 125, Don

Yomazu's attack is like Levy's Solid Script, except it uses the Chinese characters called *kanji* that make up part of the Japanese writing system. Mashima-sensei uses some of the characters strictly because they're pronounced like sound effects. (Some have real meanings, and these are translated in the book.) This *kanji* means "turtle," and the sound effect, don, sounds like striking a dramatic pose.

Page 125, Hyuu

This *kanji* means "little tiger," and sounds like something whizzing through the air.

Page 132, Gô

This *kanji* means "thunder" and is pronounced *gô*, the Japanese sound for thunder. In fact, it probably came to mean thunder because of its pronunciation, not the other way around.

Page 138, Zu-Za Za Za Za Za

Here we have a series of *kanji* that sound like the Japanese sound effect for a swinging sword. The *kanji* mean "design" followed by a bunch of *kanji* meaning "seat" – so, as you can see, the meaning doesn't matter. Only the pronunciation is important.



Page 139, Zan

This *kanji* means "cut" or "behead," and it really is pronounced "zan."

Page 139, Su-Pa Pa Pa Pa

Like Zu-Za Za Za Za above, these *kanji* were chosen for their sounds rather than their meanings. The first, *su*, means 'nest,' and the *pa* sounds mean 'twirl.'

Page 140, Bi, Za, Ba

Here the *bi* *kanji* means 'assist.' The *kanji* for *za* means 'steep,' and the *kanji* for *ba* means 'horse,' and is the first character in the common Japanese insult *baka* (the *ka* in *baka* means 'deer').

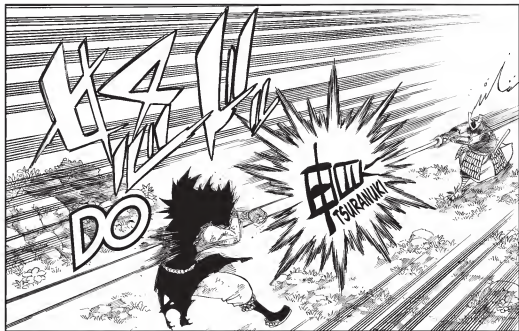


Page 141, Tsuranuki

The *kanji* for *tsuranuki* means 'pierce.'

Page 141, Do

Do is a *kanji* that means 'anger' or 'rage.'



Page 141, Kasha

The first *kanji*, *ka*, means 'to add,' and the second *kanji*, *sha*, means 'pebbles.'

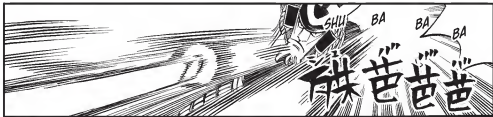
Page 153, Bô

This *kanji* seems to have been chosen both for its sound and meaning. The *kanji bô* means "protection."



Page 154, Shu-Ba Ba Ba

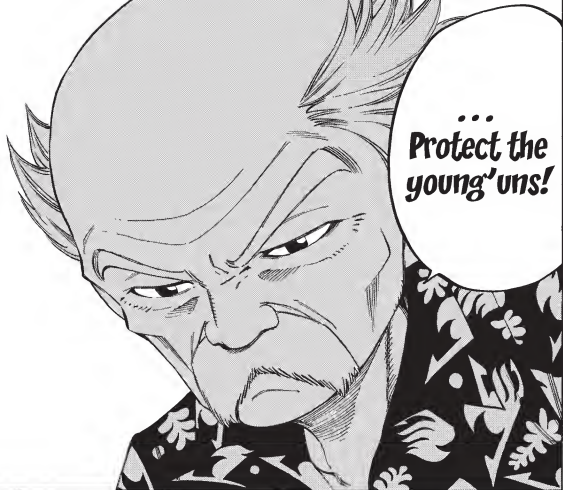
The phrase *shu-ba-ba ba* was probably chosen for its sound. The *kanji* for *shu* means "exceptional," and the *ba* *kanji* refers to certain kinds of banana and is the first character in the name of the famous haiku poet, Basho.

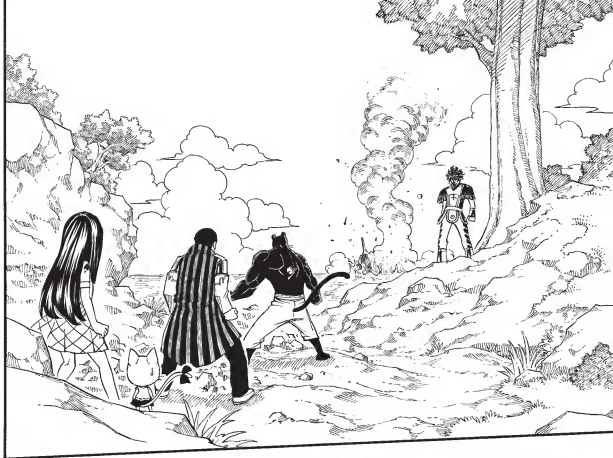


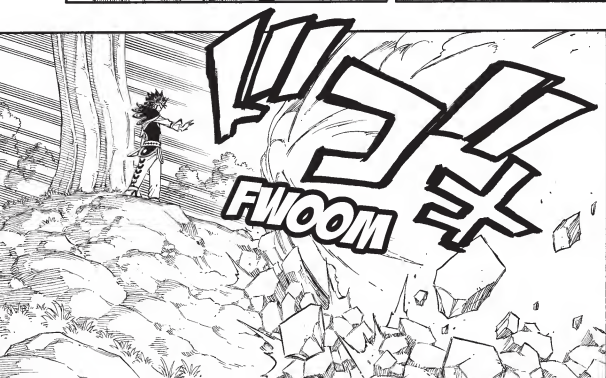
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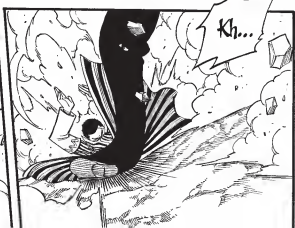
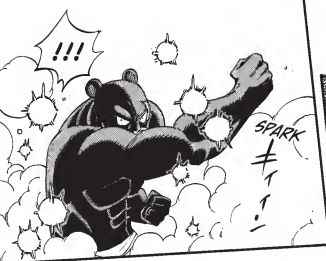


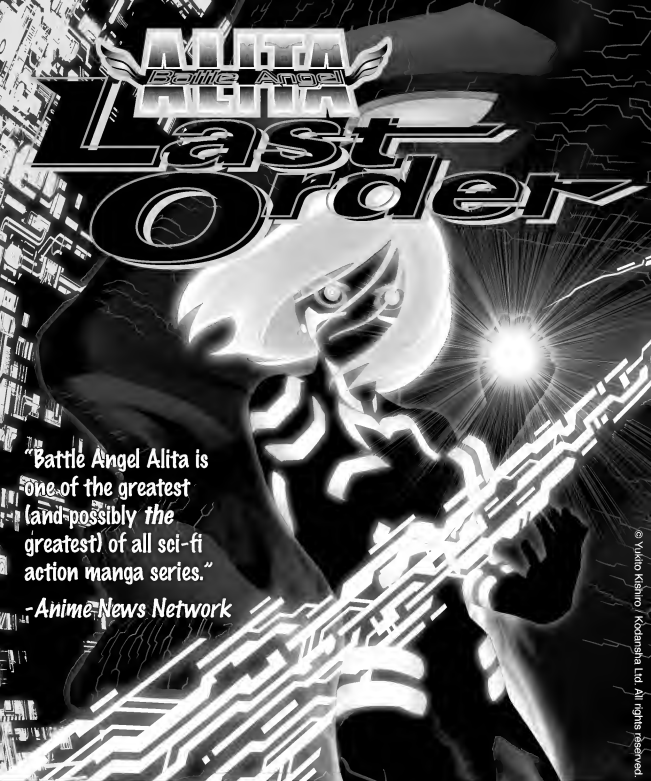












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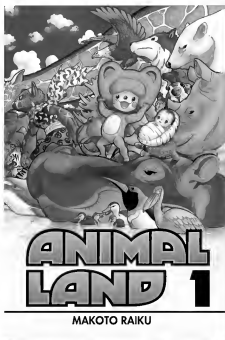
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